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*Psychology and Psychic Culture.* By REUBEN POST HALLECK. American Book Co., New York, 1895.

Mr. Halleck's psychology, which comprises some 360 pages, is designed as a text-book for high school pupils, and to quote from the author, "aims to present the latest ascertained facts of physiological as well as of introspective psychology."

The book is dated 1895, but none of the more recent contributions of French and German psychologists are mentioned, nor does the author manifest any acquaintance with much of the psychological literature available in English. A pupil might read the book carefully from beginning to end without so much as a suspicion that such things as psychological laboratories existed. On p. 65 Weber's law is thus stated: "To produce a change in any sensation, the stimulus must be increased one-third."

The book retains the old faulty classification of mental phenomena with some justification, since the text-book is an elementary one designed for pupils under twenty years old, but to give no hint that any other method of treating the subject exists, is scarcely in accordance with the author's claims. In the chapter on the emotions, the only authority to which the author refers for expression of the emotions is Darwin's "Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals" (1873). The book is really of the age of Porter, with a very thin and spotty varnish of more recent information.

The best portion is that which is devoted to practical precepts for emotional and voluntary control. Here the author has evidently read Prof. James' chapter on "Habit" to some purpose and uses illustrations well adapted to the design of the book.

THEODATE L. SMITH.

*L'Année Psychologique.* Par H. BEAUNIS et A. BINET, avec collaboration. Deuxième Année, 1895. Paris, Felix Alcan, 1896.

Psychologists are again heavily indebted to the perseverance and industry of MM. Beaunis and Binet and their collaborators. This number of *L'Année*, as the last, falls into three parts, devoted respectively to original articles, to general reviews of literature in several important fields, and to summaries and reviews of the publications of the year. The first two and last form almost equal parts of the entire work,—about 500 pages each.

The volume begins with an article by Prof. Ribot (Paris), "*Les Caractères anormaux et morbides.*" Under this title are treated those unstable types of character which range in intensity from the change accompanying religious conversion, or the two phases which the same individual shows in his place of business and his family circle, to the morbid forms of double personality. All these types are reduced to one, whose differentia is a lack of proper subordination of the different tendencies in the character; and the term *infantilisme psychologique* (psychological childishness) is proposed to cover the entire class.

Prof. Forel<sup>1</sup> (Zürich) contributes "*Un aperçu de psychologie comparée.*" The article is based upon a discussion of the nature of consciousness in its relation to the social habits of ants. The social actions are reduced to automatic movements, mainly the function of ganglia in the head,—which persist in the race by survival. The development of consciousness in general is stated to consist in the subordination of the various independent groups of automatic actions to some one central group. The treatise is made the basis

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<sup>1</sup>Page 18.